FOREST RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT
for the year ending March 31, 1984

SECRETARIAT ON FORESTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

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The Honorable T.M. Waterland
Minister of Forests
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4

Dear Sir:

It is my pleasant duty to submit this, the third Annual Report of the Forest Research Council of British Columbia, for the year ending 31 March 1984.

I remain,

Yours truly,

P.G. Trussell
Chairman
Forest Research Council

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MEMBERSHIP

APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	TERM
P.C. Trussell, Ph.D., Chairman	Feb. 1981	Indefinite
K.G. Boyd, Vice-President Pacific Forest Products Ltd. Victoria, B.C.	June 1981	3 yrs.
V.C. Brink, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus Department of Plant Science University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.	June 1982	3 yrs.
A.C. MacPherson Assistant Deputy Minister Ministry of Forests Timber, Range and Recreation Div. Victoria, B.C.	June 1981	3 yrs.
E.T. Osborn, Manager Coldstream Ranch Vernon, B.C.	June 1983	* 2 yrs.
A.B. Robinson, Regional Manager Ministry of Forests Kamloops, B.C.	June 1983	* 2 yrs.
J.D. Sigalet Parta Industries Grand Forks, B.C.	June 1982	3 yrs.
Appointed by Council		
P.H. Pearse, Ph.D., Professor Faculty of Forestry University of British Columbia Vancouver, B.C.	Oct. 1982	3 yrs.

* Having completed their initial 2-year terms, E.T. Osborn, representing the cattle ranching interest, and A.B. Robinson, spokesman for B.C. Forest Service in the interior, were both reappointed for 3-year terms.

SECRETARIAT

R.M. Strang, Ph.D., Executive Director and Secretary to the Council

M.L. Wallis, Secretary/Office Manager

INTRODUCTION

The Forest Research Council of B.C. and its Secretariat on Forestry Research and Development were formed under the authority of the Ministry of Forests Act (1 January, 1979) to "... advise him (the Minister) with respect to any matter included in his duties, powers and functions ...". This mandate was amplified in the Ministry's 1980 "Blueprint for Action" as being "... to co-ordinate all forest research in the Province and sponsor contracts or grants for research and forestry education".

1983-84 proved to be no less difficult a fiscal year that the preceding year had been, and Council was again unable to provide 'seed' money for needed forestry research. It was also unable to undertake any review or synoptic studies because of shortage of funds.

Given the present state of the economy, this lack of support for forestry research is explicable but the short-sightedness of policies which result in impoverishment of the forest industry is less-easily accepted. Forestry research is far from being adequately funded.

ACTIVITIES

Regular Meetings of Council

Six meetings were held; five in Richmond, with one field visit to the Forintek laboratories; and one at Campbell River with a tour of the Sayward Forest.

Meeting of Public Information Groups

In November, Council convened a meeting of organizations and agencies involved in enhancing public knowledge of and concern for forests and forestry. This meeting was called because public information had been identified as coming within Council's mandate at its inaugural meeting; preparation of a brief to Cabinet on forestry research funding (q.v.) had shown that public support for expenditure on forestry research is lacking; and it was desirable to define Council's role in this area.

Of 21 organizations invited, nine attended and agreed that Council could usefully investigate public attitudes and awareness of forestry and of public responses to forestry information.

Highlights of the meeting appear as Appendix 1.

Cabinet Brief on Forestry Research Funding

Following last year's meeting of forestry research performers, Council prepared and submitted a brief to Cabinet on the imperative need for augmented forestry research funding, with help from a number of researchers.

The summary and recommendations of that brief, "A Crossroad: the funding of forestry research or the winding-down of a resource", are reprinted as Appendix 2.

Forestry Education Task Force

Council and its Secretariat provided the logistic and secretarial services for the Ministers' Task Force on Forestry Education Needs in B.C. until 2000 A.D.

The Task Force submitted its report in July, 1983; the Summary is presented as Appendix 3.

Inventory of Active Forestry Research Projects

The Secretariat compiled a "Listing of Active Forestry and Range-Related Research Projects in B.C." which was published for limited distribution in July, 1983. An up-date is in preparation.

Incorporation as a Society

The Council was formally incorporated as a Society in August, 1983. This incorporation confers a measure of independence and has allowed administration to be streamlined.

SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat continued its close liaison with the Ministry's Research Branch, with the Canadian Forestry Service - Pacific Forest Research Centre, with Feric, Forintek and the universities.

The Executive Director attended regular meetings of Coastal and Interior Tree Improvement Councils; Regional Research Advisory Committees, and Coastal and Interior Silviculture Workshops. Field visits were somewhat curtailed by fiscal constraints. He spoke at Canadian Institute of Forestry Section meetings and to several public interest groups and service clubs. He served as Honorary Secretary of the Vancouver Section, Canadian Institute of Forestry and as Registrations Secretary for the Association of B.C. Professional Foresters (A.B.C.P.F.) Host Committee for the 1984 Annual General Meeting.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

DICKSON, STOJAK, VANDER MOLEN
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

316 - 8055 ANDERSON ROAD
RICHMOND, B.C. V6Y 1S2

(604) 273-1277

W. LYLE DICKSON
PETER P. STOJAK
S.P.C. VANDER MOLEN

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members,
The Forest Research Council of British Columbia

We have examined the balance sheet of The Forest Research Council of British Columbia as at March 31, 1984 and the statement of operations for the period then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests and other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 1984 and the results of its operations for the period then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted for non-profit organizations applied on a consistent basis.

Dickson, Stojak, Vander Molen

Richmond, B. C.
May 3, 1984

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

THE FOREST RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT MARCH 31, 1984

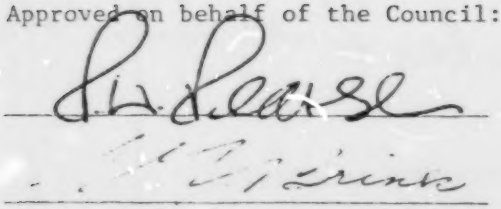
ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash	$ 18,245
Accounts receivable	182
Prepaid expenses	1,204
	$ 19,631

LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 7,473
SURPLUS	
Excess of revenue over expenditure for the period - per attached statement	12,158
	$ 19,631

Approved on behalf of the Council:



THE FOREST RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE FIVE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 1984

REVENUE		
Operating grants	$ 55,798	
Interest earned and sundry	1,238	$ 57,036
EXPENDITURE		
Council		
Professional services	1,875	
Travel	2,083	
Research contributions	5,000	
Administration		
Accounting and audit	1,243	
Bank charges	32	
Memberships and subscriptions	399	
Office and sundry	220	
Rent	3,913	
Salaries and employee benefits	25,958	
Travel and meeting costs	4,155	44,878
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD		$ 12,158

THE FOREST RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

NOTE TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT MARCH 31, 1984

NOTE The Forest Research Council of British Columbia was incorporated under the Society Act of British Columbia on August 30, 1983. The purpose of the society is to stimulate and coordinate all aspects of research required to improve the efficiency of management and productivity of the forest and range resources of the Province of British Columbia. The Council commenced active operations November 1, 1983.

APPENDICES

No. 1 Meeting of public information groups

No. 2 A crossroad: the funding of forest research or the winding down of a resource

No. 3 Forestry education needs in B.C. until 2000 A.D.

APPENDIX No. 1

Meeting of Public Information Groups

Following statements by each of the participating groups, a general discussion made these points:

1. There is a real and serious problem in that neither the general public nor a majority of politicians have either concern for or understanding of forestry and the forest industry. Programs to address this problem are available but funding to allow implementation is inadequate. This is due partly to the cyclical nature of the forest industry, which militates against consistent funding, and partly from a failure to allocate monies to the task. This situation results from the absence of an effective forestry lobby. There was a suggestion that forestry must specifically address the educational community.

2. Another difficulty is that the forestry story has many facets and the audience comprises several diverse groups so that there must be appropriate variations on the principal theme are needed if all audiences are to be reached.

3. Most participants agreed that no serious gaps or omissions exist in the message, that some measure of overlap is beneficial, and that co-ordination and collaboration are improving. However, a few felt that the forestry message was not getting to the general public with sufficient clarity or urgency.

4. The most productive role for the Forest Research Council would be to investigate public attitudes, understanding and awareness. The findings would inform communicators how well or inadequately their messages are being received, and thus indicate where changes might be desirable.

PARTICIPANTS

A.B.C.P.F. - Regional Public Affairs Committee	- G.H. Scott
B.C. Forest Service	- J. Cox
Canadian Forestry Association	- R. Lyster, P. Butts
Canadian Forestry Service	- E. Teske
Council of Forest Industries	- A. Sinclair, R. Bonderud
Forest Foundation	- M. Hadley
WEDGE (U.B.C.)	- C. Anastasiou

Observers

Carter Communications	- R. Carter
Vancouver Province	- P. Durrant

Invited but unable to attend:

Bank of Montreal, Commercial Bank
Canadian Imperial Bank of Canada
Royal Bank of Canada
International Woodworkers of America
Canadian Paperworkers of America
Pulp, Paper and Woodworkers of Canada
Canadian Pulp and Paper Association
B.C. Lumberman
Hiballer Magazine
Truck Logger
The Sun

APPENDIX No. 2

A Crossroad: the funding of forestry research or the winding down of a resource.

An 18-page brief was submitted to Cabinet on August 31, 1983, following a decision of the meeting of research performers held in December, 1982.

SUMMARY:

Having first outlined a depressed future for B.C.'s forest-based economy without an augmented research effort, this paper then summarises examples of local successes in forestry Research and Development (R and D). It indicates potential gains from continued research expenditure and points up the responsibility of the Provincial Government to increasing R and D support. Failure to meet this responsibility will have serious economic and social consequences.

The report recommends an R and D target of 2.5% of Gross Provincial Forestry Product, which is 5 times the present expenditure.

Adequately funded, the Forest Research Council can play a productive role in identifying research priorities, encouraging research performers and ensuring accountability of research expenditures.

We make four recommendations to improve forestry research funding in B.C., and call for an annual research expenditure of 2.5% of the Gross Provincial Forest Product.

APPENDIX No. 3

Forestry Education Needs in B.C. Until 2000 A.D.

The report of the Ministers' Task Force on Forestry Education was submitted in July 1983.

SUMMARY:

The Forestry Education Task Force was convened by the Ministers of Forests and of Universities, Science and Communications to estimate staff requirements in the B.C. forest industry by the year 2000 A.D.

Consideration of future timber supplies and market opportunities indicates that there must be intensification of management of B.C.'s forests if they are to meet growing, and sometimes conflicting, demands for wood products and such other uses as recreation, cattle grazing or wildlife management. To meet these growing demands more staff will be needed, both specialists and generalists. Failure to improve and intensify management will deplete B.C.'s forests and compromise the province's competitive position in world markets.

We anticipate an increase in forestry staff during a period of about 25 years during which time

a. the professional work force will double to 4000 from the present 2000;
b. specialists, with higher degrees, will increase in number to 650 from the present 250; and
c. technologists will triple in number to 10,000 from the present 3000.

Thereafter professional and technologist ranks will stabilise while specialist numbers will continue to increase, but, at a slower rate.

Staff and facilities at the educational institutions need to be augmented to train more students. University curricula are four years or more and those for technologists are two years and so no significant increase in numbers of graduates can be anticipated before 1990 for bachelor degree graduates or 1988 for diploma graduates. To achieve these dates, planning and preparation should begin now.

The Task Force recommends that the universities, colleges and B.C.I.T. plan to graduate a large majority of the numbers required annually to maintain or gradually increase staff after the expansion phase has been completed; that is

100 with a bachelor's degree in forestry,
45 with a master's or doctoral degree in forestry or related specialty, and
340 with a technologist diploma.

These numbers represent 83% of the professional foresters needed annually in B.C. after expansion has been accomplished, and all of the requirement for holders of higher degrees or technology diplomas. They necessitate increases of approximately 45%, 165% and 50% respectively in annual outturn of bachelors degree, higher degree and diploma graduates.

The additional numbers needed to build up staff to required levels should be obtained by a combination of out-of-province recruitment, in-service training and special programmes. This will avoid costly expansion and over-capitalisation to meet a temporary high demand.